

ON NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 8th May 1880.

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
1	"Bhārat Shramajivī"	Calcutta	2,100	
2	"Grāmvartā Prakāshikā"	Comercolly	175	
3	"Sansodhinī"	Chittagong	600	
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
4	"Purva Pratidhwani"	Ditto	.....	26th April 1880.
5	"Rajshahye Samvād"	Rajshahye	31	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
6	"Ananda Bazar Patrikā"	Calcutta	700	27th ditto.
7	"Arya Darpan"	Ditto	.....	30th ditto.
8	"Bhārat Mihir"	Mymensingh	671	27th ditto.
9	"Bengal Advertiser"	Calcutta	2,000	
10	"Bardwān Sanjivani"	Bardwān	296	27th ditto.
11	"Dacca Prakāsh"	Dacca	350	2nd May 1880.
12	"Education Gazette"	Hooghly	745	30th April 1880.
13	"Hindu Hitaishini"	Dacca	300	
14	"Hindu Ranjikā"	Beauleah, Rājshāhye...	200	28th ditto.
15	"Howrah Hitakari"	Bethar, Howrah	400	
16	"Medini"	Midnapore	250	28th ditto.
17	"Murshidābād Pratinidhi"	Berhampore	.....	30th ditto.
18	"Navavibhakar"	Calcutta	850	3rd May 1880.
19	"Pratikar"	Berhampore	275	
20	"Rangpore Dik Prakāsh"	Kākiniā, Rangpore	250	29th April 1880.
21	"Sādhārani"	Chinsurah	500	2nd May 1880.
22	"Sahachar"	Calcutta	500	3rd ditto.
23	"Samālochak"	Ditto	1,000	7th ditto.
24	"Samāchār Sār"	Allahabad	350	
25	"Sanjivani"	Mymensingh	260	
26	"Som Prakāsh"	Calcutta	.....	3rd ditto.
27	"Sulabha Samāchār"	Ditto	4,000	1st ditto.
28	"Shārad Kaumudī"	Bhowanipore	300	
29	"Srihatta Prakāsh"	Sylhet	440	26th April 1880.
<i>Tri-weekly.</i>				
30	"Samāchār Sudhāvarshan"	Calcutta	.....
<i>Daily.</i>				
31	"Samvād Prabhakar"	Ditto	700	20th April to 5th May 1880.
32	"Samvād Purnachandrodaya"	Ditto	300	3rd to 6th May 1880.
33	"Samāchār Chandrikā"	Ditto	625	28th April and 4th to 7th May 1880.
34	"Banga Vidyā Prakāshikā"	Ditto	500	30th April and 1st to 5th May 1880.
35	"Prabhāti"	Ditto	.....
ENGLISH AND BENGALI.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
36	"Murshidābād Patrikā"	Berhampore	487	19th April 1880.
ENGLISH AND URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
37	"Urdu Guide"	Calcutta	365	1st May 1880.
HINDI.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
38	"Behār Bandhu"	Bankipore, Patna	500	29th April 1880.
39	"Bhārat Mitra"	Calcutta	500	29th ditto.
40	"Jagat Mitra"	Ditto	157	28th ditto.
41	"Sār Sudhānidhi"	Ditto	200	3rd May 1880.
PERSIAN.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
42	"Jām-Jahān-numā"	Ditto	250	30th ditto.

POLITICAL.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
April 27th, 1880.

THE recent Parliamentary elections in England, remarks the *Ananda Bazar Patrika* of the 27th April, clearly establish the position that the people of India will never be able to make any advancement so long as they do not acquire habits of self-help. Before the elections the Liberals were always found to make a prominent mention of India and Indian affairs in their speeches, and the impression was produced that Indian topics had become of all-absorbing importance. Many Anglo-Indians also were of this opinion. Sir Richard Temple, Mr. Maclean, Sir Arthur Hobhouse, Mr. O'Donnell, and some others sought to obtain admission into Parliament; all of them have failed, thus showing that England will first consult her own interests before attending to those of others. Already the Liberal leaders have expressed views which show that they are not prepared to repair, in their entirety, the wrongs inflicted on this country by the Conservatives. They will not, at any rate, reverse completely the action of their predecessors in respect of the Afghan war and the cotton duties. The people of India therefore will not have all their expectations fulfilled. The Liberals nevertheless may prove better than their predecessors in some respects. The former have some moral scruples, while the latter have none. The Conservative administration has taught the nation one important lesson, namely, the attempt to injure others generally recoils upon the aggressor. The British nation has had its liberties curtailed almost in the same proportion as Government has curtailed the liberties of the people of India. The British exchequer has been drained in proportion as the revenues of India have been squandered by the rulers. It is therefore not likely that, with the example of the Conservatives before them, the Liberals will do any act of extreme injustice to this country.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA.

2. The same paper publishes a translation into Bengali of a notification which the editor would persuade his

Wanted an Amir for Cabul.

readers has appeared in the official Gazettes

and in certain newspapers which are favoured by Government. We give it below :—

NOTIFICATION.

"It is hereby notified for general information by the Government of India that a reward of 50 lakhs of rupees will be paid to any one who will procure an Amir or a chief ruler for Cabul. * * The Amir should be possessed of the following qualifications: He should be a Mussulman, but it is necessary that he should have a greater regard for Christianity than for Islam. He will be the ruler of Cabul, but he should love the British Government and the British nation more than he would love Afghanistan and the Afghans. If necessary, he must, under orders of the British Government, deliver into its hands that country and the people; and if it should be so desired by that Government, allow the British army to enter Afghanistan in order that it might devastate the country and destroy the inhabitants. In other words, the Amir who is wanted will have to rule over Afghanistan precisely as an English Governor seated on the throne of Cabul would do, and to cherish the same feelings of sincere friendship for the British Government. But while doing all these things, he must still be able to inspire the Afghans with a feeling of loyalty and esteem for himself. While, therefore, in his heart a friend of the British Government, the Amir should give them to understand that he is its enemy, and that he extremely hates the English, who are *kaffirs*. This is necessary as a security against murder, for, unless he declares himself an enemy of that Government, his power will be but short-lived.

" But although he must thus dissemble his real feelings as regards his country, race, and co-religionists, he should, nevertheless, be a trustworthy person. The Afghans are naturally a treacherous people, and have on many occasions proved false to British officers in defence of their country and religion. The would-be Amir should be possessed of qualities quite the contrary. He should, on behalf of the British Government, prove false to his country and to his race. He should further be possessed of certain other qualifications. As the British Government will retire from Afghanistan immediately after his installation on the throne, he should be able to carry on the government of the country with his own resources and strength; and the British Government will not aid him, either with men or money, even if there is any difficulty. He will have to rule over Afghanistan as the representative of, and administer its affairs in accordance with the wishes of, that Government; but he will not receive from it any return or advantages. Money and troops he will have to raise from Afghanistan itself; and when, under the orders of the British Government, he devastates any portion of that country, he will have to do so with the resources of the Afghans. The candidate for the Amirship should have a knowledge of geography, but the knowledge should be confined to the one fact—that there is but one other country and one other race in the world, namely England and the English. If questioned about the number of countries in the world, he must reply that there are only two, namely Cabul and England. If the question were 'Who are the most civilized and powerful people in the world?' the answer must be 'The English.' One or two mistakes while undergoing this examination might be forgiven him, but he must not, on any account, know that there is such a country as Russia, or such a people as the Russians. He must know this only—that beyond the mountains which bound Afghanistan on the north, there is an ocean which has no limits to it, and is under the domination of the British; that this ocean bears hundreds of thousands of war ships. The Amir should further be required to call every Englishman 'huzur,' and *salaam* him after the fashion of Mahomedans. Every Englishman who enters his territories must be regarded by him as a representative of the Empress of India, and should not be punished or thwarted in his purpose, even if he committed any seriously wrongful act. The Amir should not maintain any reserve, but express himself freely to the British authorities. He must divulge any secret plans which may have been revealed to him in confidence by the Afghans, and would not be allowed to attach any importance to any calumnies or disgrace which such conduct might lead to."

3. The *Bhārat Mihir*, of the 27th April, discusses in its opening article the question of representative government for India. Until people in this country, observes the editor, are able to make known their wants and grievances to the British public by means of their own representatives, there is no hope of improvement for them. It is not possible for a few foreigners to understand what this country needs. The people have now been fitted by their education to undertake the duties of representative government, and there will be strong dissatisfaction if their aspirations remain long disregarded. The editor then proceeds to refer to the views expressed by Sir David Wedderburn and others on this subject.

4. The same paper remarks that, from a speech which Lord Hartington has recently made in Lancashire, it appears that the Liberals do not approve of the policy of their predecessors regarding affairs in Afghanistan. The new Ministry will doubtless adopt an honest policy respecting that country, and will seek to preserve its independence so far as this can be done consistently

BHARAT MIHIR,
April 27th, 1880.

BHARAT MIHIR.

with their resolve of maintaining the prestige and interests of the British Government. The Afghan difficulty is not likely to terminate until this is done.

SOM PRAKASH,
May 3rd, 1890.

5. Adverting to the exultation with which the success of the Liberals has been hailed by young men in this country, the *Som Prakásh* remarks that a similar feeling was experienced when the Government of India passed from the hands of the East India Company into those of the Queen. But unfortunately the good expected did not come. The old privileges disappeared. Who knows that there will not be a recurrence of the same circumstance? It is to be hoped that the wishes of the young men will be fulfilled, and that those who may be selected by the new Ministry to rule over India will not, like their Tory predecessors, leave behind in England their eyes and minds when coming out to this country.

The new Ministry.

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION.

MURSHIDABAD
PATRIKA,
April 23rd, 1890.

6. The *Moorshedabad Patriká*, of the 23rd April, remarks that, following the example of Rávan, who in his dying moments showed his greatness of mind by

Revival of the *Som Prakásh*.

imparting to Ráma certain valuable instructions in politics, Lord Lytton also, on the eve of laying down his office, has given indications of generosity by directing the republication of the *Som Prakásh*. It may be hoped that after this the Press Act and the Arms Act will be dealt with in an equally liberal spirit.

MURSHIDABAD
PATRIKA,

7. The same paper contains a long article on the management of the estates under the Court of Wards in the district of Moorshedabad. The editor refers to the unsatisfactory manner in which the

Estates under the Court of Wards in Moorshedabad.

affairs of these estates, of which there are not a few, are administered by the general manager, Baboo Navinkrishna Banerjee. While there are extensive robberies of the property of the wards allowed to go uninvestigated, the near relations of the minor are reduced to great hardship, and denied even small comforts. The management is characterized by a waste and an unscrupulousness which are patent to everybody, and have made the institution of the Court of Wards exceedingly unpopular. The writer has been led to indulge in these reflections in consequence of the strenuous efforts that are now being made by the local authorities to place the estates of the late Annadá Prasád Baboo under the supervision of the Court. It is said the will of the deceased does not contain any provision to this effect. The current of local opinion also is strongly against the proposal, which is regarded with alarm. The action of the manager, Baboo Navinkrishna, in having demanded the dismissal of an old and faithful servant of the Nasipore estate, and the cases in the criminal courts which were the outcome of it, are strongly condemned.

MURSHIDABAD
PRATINIDHI,
April 30th, 1890.

Estates under the Court of Wards in Moorshedabad.

8. On the same subject the *Moorshedabad Pratinidhi*, of the 30th April, makes similar observations.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
April 27th, 1890.

9. A correspondent of the *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 27th April, directs the attention of the authorities to the circumstance that many of the villages in the

Dacoities in Burdwan.

Burdwan district are now infested by robbers, so that travelling, even in daytime, has become extremely unsafe. Murders also have become very frequent of late.

ANANDA BASAR
PATRIKA,
April 27th, 1890.

10. Adverting to the petition of the traders of Bogra to the Lieutenant-Governor on the subject of the license tax assessments, the *Ananda Bazar Patriká*, of the 27th April, makes the following

The license tax and the petition of the traders of Bogra.

observations:—Whatever injuries our present Governor may have inflicted on this country in other ways, the injury he has done by emasculating the Bengalis as a people will never be repaired. To strike at the root of the permanent settlement of land in this country may or may not have been an aim of Sir Richard Temple, but it is clear that although Sir George Campbell had such an object in view, he had not the courage to adopt any measures for this purpose. He feared that the attempt to subvert the settlement would not only render him unpopular, but would also produce such an agitation that in the end he would be put to shame. Sir Ashley Eden, however, has easily accomplished that task, and that, too, without calling forth any protest. And not only has the permanent settlement been completely subverted, but the fear with which the rulers used formerly to regard the zemindars of Bengal has also disappeared. Sir Ashley has similarly injured us in the matter of the license tax and Act IX of 1878. The license tax has led to such fearful oppressions that the people of Bengal, whom the present administration has almost deprived of life and energy, have shown signs of vitality. The traders of Bogra have made a petition to the Lieutenant-Governor, who will probably wonder that, after the discontinuance of the practice of petitioning under his orders, these men should still come forward with their complaints. His Honor will probably wonder at their audacity. The traders of Bogra have evidently made a mistake in thus petitioning him. Sir Ashley Eden is a tyrant to the weak, while he is servile to the powerful. The return to power of the Liberals, who are so opposed to the license tax, might, however, dispose the Lieutenant-Governor to entertain the petition favourably.

BHARAT MIHIR,
April 27th, 1880.

11. The following extracts are made from an article in the *Bharat Mihir* of the 27th April:—The abolition of the Press Commissionership, if made, will not be a matter of regret. We, however, do not see why Government created this office, or, having created it, has resolved upon its abolition. We were of course under the belief that the Press Commissioner was the censor of the press. When the office was established two years ago, it was announced that the incumbent thereof would serve as the recognized medium of correspondence between Government and the newspapers. But beyond putting forth explanations of Governmental measures, and enforcing the provisions of the Press Act in the case of the *Som Prakāsh*, we cannot readily mention any measure which he has accomplished during this period. Mr. Lethbridge, however, has laboured in England on behalf of Government by writing defences of the Press Act and in other ways. All this led us to think that, so long as Act IX of 1878 stood on the statute-book, the Press Commissioner would continue to be a charge on the revenues of this country, and be regarded with feelings of mortification. The officer, however, has at times sought to be useful by supplying newspapers with items of intelligence. In this he has not given satisfaction. The news supplied has been generally worthless, while his efforts to silence editors by defences of Governmental acts have been the contrary of beneficial. We should nevertheless desire that there should be such an officer as the Press Commissioner to serve as a medium between Government and the newspaper press. Let Government repeal Act IX, and set the Press Commissioner to purvey news to the editors and promote cordial relations between them and the rulers.

12. The following is taken from another article in the same paper:—
The revival of the *Som Prakāsh*. We have noticed the republication of the *Som Prakāsh* with a mingled feeling of gratification and sorrow. The circumstances in which the paper has made its appearance, instead of redounding to our honour, have rather brought discredit

BHARAT MIHIR.

upon us. When after the passing of Act IX the editor of this time-honoured journal showed his moral courage by discontinuing it, the example was extremely encouraging to other native papers. When subsequently the same editor was called upon to execute a bail bond, his attitude encouraged natives of this country to memorialize Parliament against the introduction of the Press law. The editor, however, recently submitted a memorial; and the Lieutenant-Governor has permitted him to republish the *Som Prakásh*. This memorial is a sort of bail bond. It is a bond of loyalty, minus the provision regarding the money deposit. It was but superfluous to demand such a bond from the people of India, whose loyalty is proverbial. The reason why the native newspapers disliked the provision regarding bail bonds in Act IX of 1878 was that the execution of such bonds would be regarded as a proof that they were wanting in loyalty. The *Som Prakásh* has engaged itself to write in a loyal spirit. Now his idea of loyalty may not be the same as that entertained by Government. Why then this undertaking? Considering that native newspapers, in spite of their thoroughly loyal spirit, have not succeeded in impressing Government favourably towards them, this undertaking given by the *Som Prakásh* is simply the confession of a weakness on the part of the editor. Since the subject of contention between Government and native newspapers is what constitutes loyal writing, there would not be any room for surprise if at some future time the *Som Prakásh* found itself, in consequence of the pledge it has now given, in any difficulty. A little more patience would have enabled the editor to republish the paper without sacrificing his dignity. We make no doubt that the Liberals will remove the fears which now trouble the vernacular newspapers. The premature re-appearance of the *Som Prakásh* has weakened their cause.

PRABHATI,
April 30th, 1880.

13. In the course of an article reviewing the administration of Lord Lytton, the *Prabháti*, of the 30th April, remarks that His Excellency has not been able to make good the promises he made when in India he first assumed the reins of office, nor has he shown in his subsequent acts the sympathy with the loyal people of India which moved him when he made his address on the occasion of the Delhi Durbar. He has not succeeded in winning for himself a place in their hearts. They formed high expectations from his advent to power, but he has disappointed them by passing the Press Act, by declaring the Afghan war, and by reducing himself to the position of a tool in the hands of Lord Beaconsfield. The people of India will, however, ever remain grateful to him for one thing, namely, that he has roused them from their political lethargy, and by his rigorous administration compelled them to seek the means by which they can improve their political status. There has been a political revival in the country, for which Lord Lytton deserves their thanks.

SULABHA SAMACHAR,
May 1st, 1880.

14. It is possible, says the *Sulabha Samáchar*, that if his lot had been cast in any other time Lord Lytton might have won popularity. He is a scholar and an orator, and is exceedingly amiable. His utterances on the subject of education and famine relief, and his minute in the Fuller case, show that he would have, if placed in different circumstances, been able to inspire esteem. As it was, however, he assumed office at a critical juncture, when the Ministry in power determined to pursue an anti-Russian policy. He had therefore to act under their instructions; once embarked upon this course, there was no stopping. The Press Act and other measures were but the natural outcome of this policy.

SOM PRAKASH,
May 3rd, 1880.

15. We are sorry, writes the *Som Prakásh* of the 3rd May, that we cannot vote Lord Lytton an address on the eve of his retirement from this country. We

have searched in vain for even one qualification which might entitle him to an address. We do not remember to have come across one single measure gratifying to the people which Lord Lytton has accomplished since his arrival in India. In order to gratify his subjects, Rám Chandra sent into exile his beloved queen Sítá, but Lord Lytton during his tenure of office has put an affront upon the first subject in Bengal, the body of its landholders. He has interfered with the rights which were secured to them by the permanent settlement, and has produced discontent by imposing the license tax. He has sacrificed the interests of India to promote those of Manchester. It would be no exaggeration to say that under his rule the people have not been happy in any respect. His action in imposing the most harassing taxes has been supplemented by an adverse Providence which sent famines to this country. The destructive Afghan war with its fearful consequences has not been yet brought to an end. This affair has made him extremely unpopular. The saddling of India with the costs of this war, the separation of Candahar and Ghuzni from Cabul, and the Press Act are then mentioned and condemned. Speaking as a representative of the people, the editor feels that Lord Lytton does not deserve an address, but personally the former is bound to be grateful to His Excellency for the permission to republish the paper recently granted him.

16. The same paper contains another article in which the editor asks Government to permit the re-issue of the weekly paper *Dibákar*, which used to be published in Beerbhoom. That journal having written in support of the *Som Prakásh*, there was a difference of opinion between the editor and the local authorities, and it therefore ceased to exist only after a few numbers had appeared. Now that the *Som Prakásh* has been revived, it is hoped there will be no difficulty in resuscitating the *Dibákar*. The editor is advised to make a petition to His Honor to this effect.

SOM PRAKASH,
May 3rd, 1880.

17. The same paper believes that, although not the leader of the Liberals, Lord Ripon still holds very high rank among the aristocracy. As a Roman Catholic he might favour any proposal that might be made to abolish the State church in India. His conversion to Roman Catholicism at an advanced age, however, makes one doubt the steadiness of his convictions.

SOM PRAKASH.

18. The *Navavibhákar*, of the 3rd May, dwells on the ability with which the subordinate ministerial officers of the Calcutta Small Cause Court perform their duties. Unlike those employed in the same capacity in other courts, these men enjoy a great reputation for integrity and courtesy. They, however, receive very low salaries, and find a difficulty in supporting their families. It behoves Government to consider their case.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
May 3rd, 1880

19. The same paper believes that the Liberals, being men of superior moral character, and being more favourably disposed towards this country than the Tories, may be reasonably expected to give to India the benefits of a good administration. The earnestness with which the leaders of the party condemned the objectionable measures of their predecessors is a proof of their sincerity, and it is not possible that they will all on a sudden change their policy.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

20. The *Sahachar*, of the 3rd May, contains a long article on Lord Lytton's administration, of which the substance may be thus stated:—Lord Lytton is the first Viceroy who has imported party considerations into the government of this country. This is not to be wondered at, considering that he was but a creature of Lord Beaconsfield. It is therefore to be regretted that the people of this country cannot now bid him farewell with a

SAHACHAR,
May 3rd, 1879.

sorrowing heart. They have suffered much at his hands. He is an accomplished man, but does not possess the qualifications which are necessary for the office of Viceroy. He was sent out to carry out the Afghan policy of the late Ministry, and in his eagerness to please his master has sacrificed the interests of the people committed to his charge. His speeches have been indeed eloquent, but they were all hollow. His Fuller minute was an encroachment on the powers of the High Court of the North-Western Provinces. His education has been that of a diplomatist, and he is thus unfitted for the post of Governor-General of India. He held a costly assemblage at Delhi when a dire famine was stalking over the land. His Afghan policy has been a failure. After recounting and condemning all the public measures of his administration, the editor thus writes towards the conclusion of the article:—An impartial consideration of his acts leads to the conclusion that no other person ever landed in India who was so worthless, weak-minded, so uninitiated in politics, or so servile to his employer. His administration has cast a stain on the fair fame of England.

LOCAL.

BHARAT MIHIR,
April 27th, 1880.

21. THE *Bhārat Mihir*, of the 27th April, remarks that the conduct of the local judge, Mr. Kirkwood, is daily becoming more unsatisfactory. We are indeed

Mr. Kirkwood.

prepared to give him credit for checking with a strong hand the disgraceful noise which used to prevail before in the courts. His judicial acumen is also highly creditable to him, but the loss of temper while engaged in his work, and the manner in which he deports himself towards the amlah and assessors, are extremely unsatisfactory. The other day a respectable pleader of the local bar was by him subjected to very harsh treatment. An old *peshkār*, who has served long with credit, has been forbidden to enter his court. The assessors also are dissatisfied.

BHARAT MIHIR.

22. A correspondent of the same paper remarks that the license tax, already an oppressive measure, has been rendered

The license tax in Furreedpore.

more so by the inequitable assessments of the circle officers. The exemptions of the lowest classes ordered by Government have in practice led to no beneficial results, as these officers have now assessed persons at rates higher than those at which they were assessed before; and this has been done in spite of the fact that no increased earnings have been made by the assesseees. A case in point recently occurred in Furreedpore. One Meher Khalifa, a shoemaker, paid at the rate of Rs. 5 for the last two years; but those who were liable to pay at this rate having been exempted, he has now been assessed at the rate of Rs. 10. There is nothing to justify this proceeding. His business has not expanded, nor has his income increased.

BHARAT MIHIR =

23. Another, writing to the same paper, directs the attention of Government to the unsatisfactory condition of the

The Kissoregunge dispensary.

charitable dispensary at Kissoregunge. Medicines are not properly dispensed to the patients; the surgery and police cases are treated with an extreme want of care; the officer in charge is not punctual in his attendance; while there is no knowing where the medical stores supplied by Government go.

RAJKRISHNA MUKHOPADHYAYA, M.A. & B.L.,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

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